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Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District
of Thedwastre in the County of West Suffolk for the
year ending 31st December, 1954.

Public Health Officer,
6, Chisling Street,
Sury St. Edmund.

January 1955.

THEDWASTRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

WEST SUFFOLK

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst. in relation to the report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending 31st December, 1954. I have the pleasure to inform you that the report has been forwarded to the County Council for their consideration.

R E P O R T

The County Medical Officer of Health, Mr. R. H. Clayton, has been a great help in connection with the report and I am sure that you will find it of interest.



I am, Mr. Chairman, of the

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Public Health Officer of the Rural District.

(1) Report - for the Year

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.,
D.F.P., (General), Dist. Public Health Officer
and Public Health Officer (General), appointed in 1954.

1954.

This report was prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the following regulations:-

Medical Officer of Health, Thedwastre Rural District, appointed 1st July, 1954.
His Honor J. B. C. J.
The Hon. J. B. C. J.
County J. B. C. J. February 1955.

(2) Report - The Public Health Officer,
Charles J. B. C. J., M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., West Suffolk,
appointed 1st July, 1954, also Public Health Officer,
The Hon. J. B. C. J., M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.,
appointed 1st July, 1954.

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Public Health Officer of the Rural District,
appointed 1st July, 1954.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District
of Thedwastre in the County of West Suffolk for the
year ending 31st December, 1954.

Public Health Offices,
8, Whiting Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.

November 1955.

To:-

The Chairman & Members of the
Rural District Council of Thedwastre.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration
my seventeenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being
that for the year ended 31st December, 1954, and acknowledge my
indebtedness to Mr. Wyatt in its compilation, as also to Mr. Wilden,
Clerk of the Council.

The County Medical Officer of Health, West Suffolk, Dr. D. A.
McCracken, has been a ready help in consultation and co-operation
and to him I extend my thanks.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentleman,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.,
D.P.H. (Durham). Cert. Mental Deficiency
and Allied Subjects (London), appointed in 1936.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in
addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health,	Newmarket U.D.C.	}	Appointed 1st July, 1936.
	Mildenhall R.D.C.		
	Thingoe R.D.C.		
	Cosford R.D.C.		
		"	February 1937.

(b) Others - One Sanitary Inspector,

OSWALD J. WYATT, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Meat Cert.R.S.I.,
appointed June 2nd, 1930, also Building Surveyor.

One Additional Sanitary Inspector,

F. M. FLACK, M.S.I.A., Meat Cert.R.S.I.,
appointed April 2nd, 1951.

SECTION A.
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.	Area	34,126 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population	1954. 8,860	(1953) (8,788) (1952) (8,880)
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book ..	2,849	(2,801) (2,786)
Rateable Value	£32,401	(£31,312) (£30,647)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ..	£130	(£127) (£122)

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
	1954(1953)(1952)	1954(1953)(1952)	1954(1953)(1952)
Live Births.			
Legitimate	121 (152) (159)	68 (79) (80)	53 (73) (79)
Illegitimate	7 (10) (6)	2 (5) (3)	5 (5) (3)
Stillbirths.			
Legitimate	3 (2) (2)	2 (1) (1)	1 (1) (1)
Illegitimate	Nil (Nil) (Nil)	Nil (Nil) (Nil)	Nil (Nil) (Nil)
Deaths.	121 (101) (101)	68 (46) (57)	53 (55) (44)
Deaths under 1 year.	9 (2) (6)	6 (2) (2)	3 (Nil) (4)

	The dwastre	England & Wales
	1954 (1953)(1952)	1954 (1953)(1952)
Birth Rate. (Live Births per 1000 population).	14.4 (13.4)(13.6)	15.2 (15.5)(15.3)
Comparability Factor (Births) The dwastre	1.14(1.15)(1.15)	
The Corrected Birth Rate	16.5 (21.2)(21.4)	
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 (Live & Still) Births.	22.9 (12.2)(12.0)	24.0 (22.4)(22.6)
Death Rate per 1000 population	13.7 (11.5)(11.4)	11.3 (11.4)(11.3)
Comparability Factor (Deaths)	0.83 (0.77)(0.77)	
Corrected Death Rate	11.3 (8.8) (8.8)	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year All infants per 1000 live births.	70.3 (12.3)(36.6)	25.5 (26.8)(27.6)
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births.	74.4 (6.6) (37.7)	-- (-) (-)
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate births.	Nil (100.0)(Nil)	- (-) (-)

The 9 deaths of infants under one year of age were all illegitimate infants and all of these, with the exception of 1 male, died in the first four weeks of age:-

- Male, 4 hrs. Atelectasis of the Lung.
- Male, 5 " Prematurity.
- Male, 1 day. Erythroblastosis foetalis.
- Male, 1 day. Atelectasis.
- Male, 4 days. Tentorial Tear.
- Male, 1 month. Right Empyema. Pneumonia. Bronchiectasis. Prematurity.
- Female, 31 mins. Atelectasis. (7 weeks).
- Female, 14 hrs. Atelectasis.
- Female, 8 days. Cerebral Haemorrhage. Bleeding diathesis.

The only other deaths in the nonage were two males (Male 13 months, run over by a motor lorry, Male 13 yrs., Nephritis, Malignant Hypertension) and one female (Female 11 yrs., Congenital malformation of heart).

The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

As in last year's report the deaths have been classified to conform with implementation of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948 - these regulations being set out on pages 371-375 of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

CAUSES.		Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.														Total=Registrar General's figures.			
		Under 1 year		1 to 4 years		5 to 14 years		15 to 24 yrs.		25 to 44 yrs		45 to 64 yrs		65 to 74 yrs				75 yrs.& over	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis Respiratory.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	
10.	Malignant neoplasm, Stomach.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	4	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, Breast.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	7
13.	Malignant neoplasm, Uterus.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	2	3	6	3
16.	Diabetes.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	2	5	4	8
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	9	1	2	3	12	4
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
20.	Other heart disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	1	11	9	16	10
21.	Other circulatory disease.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	3	4
23.	Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	3	3	4
24.	Bronchitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
25.	Other disease of respiratory system	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-
31.	Congenital malformations.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
32.	Other defined & ill-defined diseases.	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	1	6	7
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
35.	Suicide.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Total: Males		6	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	12	-	19	-	25	-	68	-
Females		-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	8	-	8	-	29	-	53

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The Birth Rate, Death Rate, and the Registrar's estimate of the resident population of Thedwastre for the years 1919 to 1954 are set out below:-

THEDWASTRE R.D.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Birth Rate.</u>	<u>Crude Death Rate.</u>
1919	8,528	20.5	13.9
1920	8,513	23.5	10.7
1921	8,420	22.2	10.4
1922	8,493	21.8	12.6
1923	8,480	18.8	14.6
1924	8,463	16.0	11.5
1925	8,460	17.0	12.3
1926	8,197	15.1	12.1
1927	8,301	14.8	14.3
1928	8,372	12.3	13.6
1929	8,398	16.0	11.7
1930	8,040	12.9	11.3
1931	8,031	13.7	15.8
1932	8,000	13.9	13.6
1933	7,858	13.0	16.8
1934	7,820	12.7	11.8
1935	7,749	13.7	11.4
1936	7,714	13.9	13.5
1937	7,688	14.4	13.2
1938	7,691	14.8	10.3
1939	7,724	14.1	12.5
1940	8,851	12.3	14.9
1941	9,525	13.0	11.9
1942	9,052	16.8	13.1
1943	8,713	16.5	14.9
1944	8,342	21.1	12.6
1945	8,150	19.4	15.3
1946	8,180	18.1	11.9
1947	8,199	18.3	15.2
1948	8,524	18.9	12.0
1949	8,618	16.8	13.7
1950	8,654	17.6	12.9
1951	8,719	17.5	14.3
1952	8,880	18.6	11.4
1953	8,788	18.4	11.5
1954	8,860	14.4	13.7

	Rateable Value.	Penny Rate Product.	No. of Inhabited Houses.	Registrar General's Estimate Population.	Total Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.		Births.		Stillbirths.	
						Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.	Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.	Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.
1936.	£22,590	£98	2,384	7,714	103	7	Nil	99	5	3	Nil
1937.	£23,296	£98	2,418	7,688	102	2	Nil	100	5	6	Nil
1938.	£23,783	£99	2,447	7,691	79	3	Nil	112	2	6	Nil
1939.	£24,751	£103	2,409	7,724	101	7	Nil	101	6	4	1
1940.	£25,141	£103	2,551	8,851	132	3	Nil	110	4	7	Nil
1941.	£25,019	£105	2,543	9,525	113	8	Nil	125	6	6	Nil
1942.	£25,003	£104	2,544	9,052	119	4	1	146	6	7	Nil
1943.	£26,781	£111	2,539	8,713	130	4	1	133	11	2	Nil
1944.	£26,723	£111	2,545	8,342	105	4	2	155	21	3	Nil
1945.	£26,777	£111	2,548	8,150	125	8	3	132	26	3	1
TOTALS FOR DECADE 1936 to 1945.	-	-	-	-	1,109	50	7	1,213	92	47	2
ANNUAL AVERAGE DURING DECADE.	£24,986	£104	2,493	8,345	111	5	0.7	121	9	4.7	0.2
1946.	£27,066	£112	2,552	8,180	97	2	1	125	23	5	1
1947.	£27,416	£114	2,608	8,199	125	8	3	131	19	4	Nil
1948.	£27,160	£113	2,738	8,524	102	3	Nil	150	11	2	Nil
1949.	£27,922	£119	2,778	8,618	118	3	Nil	136	9	7	1
1950.	£28,793	£119	2,768	8,654	114	5	Nil	137	15	2	Nil
1951.	£29,120	£120	2,789	8,719	125	4	Nil	146	7	4	1
1952.	£30,647	£122	2,786	8,880	101	6	Nil	159	6	2	Nil
1953.	£31,312	£127	2,801	8,788	101	1	1	152	10	2	Nil
1954.	£32,401	£130	2,849	8,860	121	9	Nil	121	7	3	Nil

SECTION B.
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, under the directorship of Dr. R. M. Fry, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem.

Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tenison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar, efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services since July 1953 have been provided directly by the County Council under the direction of Dr. D. A. McCracken, the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. These are not the responsibility of the Rural District Council.

(e) HOSPITALS. The use of hospitals by Thedwastre residents is indicated by the following information with regard to live births and deaths.

Of the 128 Live Births, 44 (34%) took place at the resident's home in Thedwastre - most of the other 84 births took place in hospital at Bury St. Edmunds.

67 (55%) of the 121 deaths of Thedwastre Residents in 1954 occurred at their own homes in Thedwastre. Of the remaining 54 there were 51 in hospitals as follows:-

27	Bury St. Edmunds, West Suffolk General Hospital.
17	" " " St. Mary's Hospital.
3	Cambridge, Addenbrooke's Hospital.
1	Ipswich, Ipswich Borough General Hospital.
1	" East Suffolk & Ipswich Hospital.
1	Newmarket, Newmarket General Hospital.
1	St. Pancras, Royal Free Hospital.

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. Comprehensive Water Scheme. The table on the following page shows that the number of houses in the District which had a piped water supply into the house at the end of 1954 was 717 (25%) and that a further 153 houses were able to obtain a piped water supply from standpipes. These figures are an increase of 402 (14%) supplied into the house and 93 (3%) standpipe supply on the 1953 figures of 315 and 60. That 30% of the houses in the District were making use of the long awaited piped water supply by the end of 1954 indicated that the Comprehensive Scheme was well under way and that these figures will rise rapidly during 1955.

A further indication of this increase is furnished by the amount of water supplied to Thedwastre R.D.C. from the Comprehensive Scheme during 1954, 1953 and 1952 which is given in monthly amounts in tabulated form on the following page. It will be noted that the average daily consumption rose from 11,000 in 1952 to 18,000 in 1953 and again to 54,000 in 1954.

Huge as these amounts of this water may seem, they are of course dwarfed when one realises that the total amount of water which was pumped during the year 1954 (from the three bores of the Thedwastre and Thingoe Joint Comprehensive Scheme - these three bores all being situated in the Thingoe Rural District area at Ixworth, Risby and Rushbrooke), was no less than 135,566,000 gallons. The daily output of 371,410 gallons, benefitted not only the partners in the Scheme, but also neighbouring authorities, as will be seen from the amounts used by the various districts:-

Water Supplied From Comprehensive Scheme During 1954.

Thingoe	49,131,000	gallons
Thedwastre	19,821,000	"
Melford	23,808,000	"
Cosford	38,383,000	"
Clare	4,423,000	"
	<u>135,566,000</u>	"

Parish.	Total Houses in Parish.	Houses in Parish with a piped water supply into the house by the end of the year. (Number in brackets = those supplied by standpipe).						% with water at end of year 1954.		
		1954.	1953.	1952.	1951.	Prior to 1951.	In House	(Stand-Pipe)	Total	
Ashfield, Gt.	105	19 (10)	19 (8)	18 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	18	(10)	287	
Badwell Ash.	116	13 (7)	- (1)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)	11	(6)	177	
Beyton.	139	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	-	(-)	-	
Drinkstone.	133	42 (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	32	(1)	337	
Elmswell.	339	147 (26)	65 (13)	58 (9)	10 (-)	- (-)	43	(8)	517	
Felsham.	107	23 (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	21	(2)	237	
Gedding.	49	18 (1)	15 (1)	9 (1)	4 (-)	- (-)	37	(2)	397	
Hessett.	88	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	-	(-)	-	
Hinderclay.	69	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	-	(-)	-	
Hunston.	30	6 (5)	5 (5)	5 (5)	1 (-)	- (-)	20	(17)	377	
Langham.	37	- (7)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	-	(19)	197	
Norton.	217	25 (9)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	12	(4)	167	
Rattlesden.	252	110 (25)	24 (-)	24 (-)	14 (-)	- (-)	43	(10)	537	
Rickinghall.	99	38 (12)	38 (12)	20 (12)	20 (12)	20 (12)	38	(12)	507	
Stowlangtoft.	58	24 (3)	5 (2)	4 (2)	- (-)	- (-)	41	(5)	467	
Thurston.	242	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	-	(-)	-	
Tostock.	96	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	-	(-)	-	
Walsham.	278	104 (21)	40 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	38	(7)	457	
Wattisfield.	126	39 (6)	35 (6)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	31	(5)	367	
Woolpit.	268	109 (17)	69 (4)	58 (4)	30 (-)	- (-)	41	(6)	477	
Total:	2,849	717 (153)	315 (60)	196 (42)	79 (12)	20 (12)	25	(5)	307	

Percentage Supplied: 25 (5) 11 (2) 7 (1) 3 (-) 1 (-)

* These houses served from the mains of our neighbouring authority, Hartismere R.D.C.

The amount of water supplied from the Comprehensive Scheme to Thedwastre R.D.C. during 1954, 1953 and 1952 is indicated below:-

	1954.	1953.	1952.
January	701,000 gallons	597,000 gallons	709,000 gallons
February	1,057,000 "	461,000 "	19,000 "
March	1,178,000 "	488,000 "	115,000 "
April	969,000 "	466,000 "	373,000 "
May	1,383,000 "	1,002,000 "	300,000 "
June	1,341,000 "	565,000 "	268,000 "
July	1,940,000 "	197,000 "	288,000 "
August	2,104,000 "	292,000 "	329,000 "
September	1,999,000 "	565,000 "	546,000 "
October	2,415,000 "	774,000 "	534,000 "
November	2,560,000 "	451,000 "	398,000 "
December	2,174,000 "	822,000 "	248,000 "
	19,821,000 "	6,680,000 "	4,127,000 "
Daily average:	54,280 "	18,330 "	11,310 "

Water Analysis. Combined Bacteriological and Chemical Analysis Reports were obtained from the three Comprehensive Scheme bores as follows:-

Site.	Bact.	Chemical (parts per 100,000)					Hardness.
		pH	Cl 2	O 2	Nitrate.	Nitrite.	
Ixworth.	Satis.	7.4	4.9	0.0393	-	-	28.7
Risby.	Satis.	7.3	2.15	0.0534	0.1	trace	25.3
Rushbrooke.	Satis.	7.1	2.45	0.0297	0.1	-	26.4

None of these waters show evidence of Plumbo-solvency.

In addition 39 bacteriological samples of water were taken from the mains in the Thedwastre District during 1954. Some of these were taken prior to the completion of flushing of the new mains, but all 30 samples taken when the mains had been put into use furnished satisfactory results.

Other Supplies. Working class houses in the District not yet supplied by the Comprehensive Scheme rely for their water, in most cases, on shallow wells. That these wells were not satisfactory sources and that they were liable to serious pollution is indicated from the bacteriological reports on the 67 samples taken from these sources of which 24 only were satisfactory and 43 were unsatisfactory.

Bacteriological Reports on Private Wells During 1954.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Result.</u>		<u>Action Taken.</u>
	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>	
Beyton.	3	2	Advised to boil before use
Elmswell.	9	15	Connected to main supply
Norton.	4	3	" " " "
Thurston.	-	2	Water carted by R.D.C.
Rattlesden.	4	11	Connected to main supply
Walsham-le-Willows.	3	6	" " " "
Woolpit.	1	4	" " " "

Water Carting. During the year water was carted once a week to various houses in 6 parishes - to Badwell Ash (Back Lane), Elmswell (Hawk End Lane), Langham (Near Old School), Thurston (Great Green) because the existing water supplies were polluted; to Rickingham (West Street) and to Thurston (Hutments) where there was no supply; and to Norton (Hall Lane), where the supply was both polluted and insufficient.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. Although in the previous Section the table on page 6 indicates that 25% of the houses in the District have a piped water supply into the house and 5% make use of the piped water supply from standpipes, it is not true, unfortunately, that the families in these houses can make full use of the water supply. For example, of the 627 total Council houses in the District at the end of 1954 only 12, at Woolpit, had W.C's., baths and sinks with cesspool drainage, the remaining 280 Post-war Council houses had no W.C's. but had baths, sinks and cesspool drainage. The Pre-war Council houses which are now on the route where the water mains have been laid have been fitted with a single tap over the sink and half of them have cesspool drainage, whilst the remaining 50% have only a pail under the sink to collect the waste water. It was inevitable that as Thedwastre did not possess a piped water supply they would not have village sewage schemes. The need for such schemes and for small plants where the villages do not lend themselves to a complete scheme has grown very urgent and is a task for which the Council will shortly devise a programme. Comparison with other Rural Districts in the County can be obtained from the following table which gives the position as at 31st August, 1955:-

<u>Rural District.</u>	<u>Total Houses.</u>	<u>Houses with piped water supply.</u>		<u>Houses connected to Sewerage System.</u>	
		<u>Total.</u>	<u>Percentage.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Percentage.</u>
Thedwastre.	2,849	1,004	35%	Nil	Nil
Cosford.	3,285	2,234	68%	994	30%
Mildenhall.	4,580	4,060	89%	827	18%
Thingoe.	5,451	3,046	56%	953	17%

The Council own a Yorkshire Karrier 750 gallon cesspool emptier, purchased in 1952, and this, under the direction of Mr. Wyatt, has been engaged in the emptying of cesspools throughout our District. Cesspools were emptied regularly throughout the year as follows:-

<u>Cesspools Emptied.</u>	
Council Houses (30 sites)	356
Private within the area	259
Private outside the area	12
	<u>627</u>

This service is available to any private house in the District on payment of 25/- for the first load and 15/- for each subsequent load - the service is free to tenants of the Council houses.

During the year this cesspool emptier was, again on occasion, able to assist the services of the Mildenhall and Thingoe Districts. This work is not included in the figures above.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. There is no river in the Thedwastre area, but the Council have employed casual labour in order to cleanse the water-course in the Street at Walsham-le-Willows.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Most working-class houses in the District have pail closets, the emptying of which is the responsibility of the tenant.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. A four-weekly kerb-side collection from all houses in the District (save for a few isolated properties) was carried on during 1954 employing a Bedford, Glover & Liversidge, moveable floor, refuse vehicle (since June 1955 this service has been fortnightly). This is the work of a driver and his mate under the direction of Mr. Wyatt - on occasion an outside contractor assists in the levelling and covering of tips which were situated at Elmswell, Thurston, Langham, Wattisfield and Walsham-le-Willows.

The Rodent Operator, Mr. A. C. Denny, makes regular visits and gives special care to the condition of these tips.

In 1954 there were 662 loads of house refuse removed, which compares with 509 loads removed during 1953.

The salvage scheme for paper and iron was continued during the year and the table below shows the amounts collected:-

Salvage Collected.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Paper.</u>		<u>Iron.</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Weight.</u>	<u>Value.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>	<u>Value.</u>	
1954.	3 tons.15 cwts.	£13. 6. 0.	3 tons.19 cwts.	£15.11.4.	£28.17.4
1953.	5 tons.2 cwts.	£16. 1. 6.	2 tons.1cwt.	£8.10.8.	£24.12.2.
1952.	12 tons.11 cwts.	£30.18. 9.	6 tons.	£27. 2.6.	£108. 1.3.

In addition to the value of salvage there is another income which helps to offset the cost of refuse collection. The Council adopted the provisions of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which allowed them to provide each house, (without a suitable receptacle), with a satisfactory dustbin at an annual charge of 5/- per annum. The dustbins have lasted so well that the 5/- annual charges now show the Council a considerable benefit.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The following table records the number of inspections carried out by Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Flack:-

Number of Houses inspected	138	No. of visits	178
Informal housing notices served .. ..	..	.. ..	17
Waterworks visits made (Mains) .. ..	..	.. ..	900
New Connections made to mains - In house or standpipe .. ..	..	.. ..	495
Factories Inspection .. ..	..	.. ..	17
Bakehouse inspections .. ..	..	.. ..	5
Inspections to Butchers premises and Bacon Factory .. ..	..	.. ..	489
Inspections to Schools .. ..	..	.. ..	2
Inspection to Shops .. ..	..	.. ..	29
Rodent Control Visits by Sanitary Inspectors .. ..	..	.. ..	12
Inspections of camping sites, caravans, etc. .. ..	..	.. ..	3
Visits to tips, etc. for other than rodent control .. ..	..	.. ..	40
Visits to Hutments and Requisitioned Houses .. ..	..	.. ..	254

Factories Acts, 1937 & 1948.

On the following page is recorded the prescribed particulars which are required by Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, to be furnished by Medical Officers of Health in their annual reports with respect to matters under Part I and Part VIII of that Act which are administered by the District Council.

Factory Act, 1937. Inspections for purposes of Provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	14	22	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	29	46	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority * (excluding out-workers premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	43	68	Nil	Nil

* i.e. Electrical Stations (Sections 103 (1)). Institutions. (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

No defects were found.

OUTWORK. Section 110 & 111. No notification of Outwork was received.

Premises classified as Factories in Thedwastre comprise:-

5 Agricultural Engineering Works	1 Grain Cleaning
1 Bacon Factory	1 Meal Mixing
4 Boot Repairers	1 Pottery
7 Builders Yards	1 Printing Works
1 Egg Depot	2 Smithies
4 Flour Mills	1 Tailor
2 Fruit Packing Stations	1 Wheelwright
8 Garages	2 Wireless Repairers.
1 Gate Manufacturer	

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. 29 inspections to the ventilation and sanitary accommodation provisions of the Shop Act, 1934, were made. From these inspections no action was required in any case. The advent of a pipe water supply, to be followed in the future by sewage disposal schemes, will allow considerable improvements to be effected in shops and offices throughout our District.

The following are the numbers of shops in our District:-

16 shops not associated with food:-

Boot Repairers	..	..	..	4
Bicycle "	..	..	..	3
Garages	..	..	..	7
Hairdressers	..	..	..	2

63 shops associated with food:-

Butchers	..	..	..	8
Grocers	..	..	..	42
Bakers	..	..	..	5
Milk Shops	..	..	..	2
Fried Fish & Chip Shops	..	..	..	3
Cafes	..	..	..	4

32 Public Houses.

(v) CAMPING SITES.

14 caravans, housing in all approximately 30 persons are licensed within our District. They are spread over 11 sites, as in the main they are single caravans housing agricultural workers temporarily, until the occupant can be found housing accommodation by the farmer concerned, or they may be occupied temporarily by persons near the site on which they are having a house built for themselves.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

As smoke abatement is becoming a most urgent and serious problem for many industrial authorities, it is gratifying to record that there are but 3 factories with factory chimneys in Thedwastre. These are the Brickworks, Woolpit (disused), the Bacon Factory, Elmswell, and the Pottery at Wattisfield. There has never been any evidence or complaint of smoke nuisance arising from these factories in my experience.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no swimming baths in the District. The swimming baths at Bury St. Edmunds and Stowmarket are available at reasonable distance to many of our inhabitants.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No case of bed bug infestation was either reported or discovered during 1954, or in any year covered by my reports which extend from 1938.

(ix) RODENT CONTROL.

The services of Mr. A. C. Denny, the Rodent Operator, were retained during 1954. Regular and systematic survey of all properties within the District has continued, employing so far as practicable, block treatment. All 489 infested properties have received treatment. Regular attention was paid to refuse tips to keep them free from infestation. Free treatment was given to houses but a charge of 5/- per hour made for business premises, this charge including the provision of all materials. The following is a summary of the work done:-

Number of Premises Visited	2,902
Number of Premises Infested	489
Number of Premises Baited	537
Number of Rats' bodies picked up	1,835
Estimated number of Rats destroyed	7,340

4. SCHOOLS. The advent of a piped water supply into several of our parishes has been welcomed by the Education Authority who make use of the public supply into schools at Elmswell, Rickingham, Stowlangtoft, Walsham-le-Willows, Wattisfield, Woolpit, Norton and Drinkstone. The supplies at Norton and Drinkstone were first connected during 1954. Sewage disposal methods have been improved at the schools at Elmswell and at Rattlesden where part are now W.C's. with septic tanks, whilst the Beyton Modern School has W.C's. and a sewage plant.

5. THE RAG, FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951. There are no premises in the District which require registration or licensing under the above Act.

6. PUBLIC HOUSES. The brewery companies are taking advantage of the Comprehensive Water Scheme to improve and remedy their premises throughout Thedwastre and doubtless they will welcome the further extension of the water scheme and the provision of sewage schemes as the conditions which exist in the 32 public houses in the District at present can be summarised as follows:-

<u>Water Supply.</u>		<u>Drainage Systems.</u>	
Mains Water Supply	15	7 Satisfactory cesspool drain-	
Bores with piped supply	2	25 Unsatisfactory drainage.	age
Wells	15		
<u>Closet Accommodation.</u>			
3 premises with W.C's.			
29	"	"	Pail Closets.

SECTION D,
H C U S I N G.

1. (1) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). (Including Council houses)	138
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	178
(2) (a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil
(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. (Including Council houses)	17
2.	<u>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.</u>	
	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers (including Council houses).	19
3.	<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</u>	
	<u>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	Nil
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-	
(a)	By Owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
	<u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	Nil
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
(a)	By Owners.	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners.	Nil
	<u>Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which	
(a)	Demolition Orders were made.	Nil
(b)	Undertakings accepted not to re-let for human habitation.	6
(c)	Undertakings cancelled upon completion of work	Nil
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	1
	<u>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders.	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year Nil
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein Nil
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein Nil
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 3
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 18
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. Nil

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population in 1954 was 8,860 persons - the number of inhabited houses at the end of the year according to the Rate Book was 2,849 - an average of 3.11 persons per house throughout the District. New houses provided in the post-war years have been:-

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Total.
Private Houses.	5	16	10	7	8	3	4	15	21	89
Council Houses.	18	37	47	60	26	18	22	21	40	292
Total:	23	53	57	67	34	21	26	39	61	381

The Council's 1954 contribution to the housing needs of the District falls under six heads:-

(a) General Repair and Maintenance of Existing Houses.

The following table indicates this work in connection with private dwelling houses. The table, however, does not include repairs to Council houses, hutments or requisitioned houses which are effected by direct labour under the direction of the Housing Supervisor, Mr. Cushing.

Classified List of Housing Defects and Nuisances Abated during the year in Private Dwelling Houses.

New drains tested and passed	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Plaster repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Dampness	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Windows repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Fireplaces repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Floors repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Closets repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pumps or wells repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pantry repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Stairs "	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Gutters "	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Doors "	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

(b) The Provision of New Houses.

21 new houses were provided by private enterprise during 1954 and a further 40 new Council houses were built. The new Council houses provided in the Post-war years are listed in the table on the following page which indicates the parish and the year in which these Council houses were built. It will be noted that in the 9 post-war years (1946-1954) there were built 292 new Council houses, a figure which is approaching the 331 total of building in all the pre-war years. It will be further noted that the total Council houses number 627 which is 22% of all the 2,849 houses throughout the District.

Parish.	Houses Total in Parish.	C O U N C I L H O U S E S												of COUNCIL HOUSES.
		Total	Pre-War	War- Time.	P O S T					W A R.		1953	1954	
					1945	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952			
Ashfield.	105	26	16	2				8						25%
Badwell Ash.	116	23	19		2									20%
Beyton.	139	46	20			2		8	6		4		6	33%
Drinkstone.	133	24	10	2		8					4			18%
Elmswell.	339	95	55		4	9	7					4	16	27%
Felsham.	107	28	10			8		4					6	26%
Gedding.	49	18	10					6				2		37%
Hessett.	88	30	12					2	10			6		34%
Hinderclay.	69	15	7					4			4			22%
Hunston.	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Langham.	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Norton.	217	59	33				12	10					4	27%
Rattlesden.	253	34	18				4	6			6			13%
Rickinghall.	99	18	2			8		4				4		18%
Stowlangtoft.	58	14	6										8	24%
Thurston.	242	39	17				12			6	4			16%
Tostock.	96	20	14				2	2	2					21%
Walsham.	278	56	38					6	8			4		20%
Wattisfield.	126	28	18				10							22%
Woolpit.	268	54	26		10	2				12		4		20%
	2,849	627	331	4	18	37	47	60	26	18	22	24	40	22%

292

(c) Improvement Grants. The Council encourages applications for Improvement Grants to assist in the improvement and reconditioning of dwellings within the Rural District. During 1954 the Council approved applications for improvements in respect of a further 10 dwellings to an amount of £2,032. 12. 0. Since the coming into operation of the Housing Act, 1949, until the end of 1954 the Council had authorised Improvement Grants amounting to £3,016. 7. 5. in respect of 16 dwellings.

(d) Subsidies. The Council had by the end of 1954 granted subsidies to the owners for the erection of 11 houses under the Housing Financial Provisions Act, 1938. All these subsidies were advanced prior to 1954.

(e) Loans. The Council approved 3 further loans in 1954 under the Housing Act, 1949, making a total of 8 loans which had been advanced under this Act. These loans allow persons to provide themselves either with a new house or to purchase an existing dwelling.

(f) Sale of Council Houses. Although one or two enquiries were made by existing tenants as to the purchase of the Council houses which they occupied, no Council house has as yet been sold by the Council.

SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY. The Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, reallocated the duties with regard to production and supervision of milk supplies - the duties of our Authority are curtailed to the surveillance of milk in distribution from dairies other than producer retail dairies.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. The St. Edmundsbury Co-operative Bacon Factory at Elmswell was the only slaughterhouse regularly in use within the District throughout the year and the list of carcasses inspected and meat condemned which follows on page 14 refers to the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors at the Factory.

It should be noted, however, that the war-time arrangements for central slaughtering came to an end on the 29th June, 1954. Prior to this consultation took place between the Council and the meat retailers in Thedwastre on the question of slaughtering facilities and

re-licensing of slaughterhouses. As a result of these consultations it was decided to issue licences to 4 slaughterhouses, one each at Elmswell, Norton, Walsham, and Woolpit, but these had but very casual use in the last six months of the year as only a total of 8 beasts and 1 sheep was slaughtered in these premises - The butchers of the District have preferred to buy their meat from the hook.

Inspection at St.Edmundsbury Co-operative Bacon Factory

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

Number of pigs killed	..	..	..	..	..	..	111,493
Number of pigs inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	111,493

All diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole carcase condemned	..	..	..	..	..	223
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..					3,356
Percentage affected with disease other than Tuberculosis						3.2%

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	..	..	52
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..					3,429
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis	..	..	..			3.1%

Condemnation of Parts.

					Number.	Weight.
Heads	..	..	..	..	3,429	44,327 lbs.
Plucks	..	..	..	..	2,787	19,509 "
Kidneys	..	..	..	..	3,356	839 "
Intestines	..	..	..	..	1,546	

Causes of Condemnation.

Fevered	11	Jaundice	11	Fevered & Dropsical	6
Moribund	36	Pleurotic	4	Dead on arrival	7
Swine Fever	12	Crampy	3	Fevered & Jaundiced	1
Pleurisy &		Erysipelas	6	Immaturity	1
Peritonitis	10	Bruised	3	Pleurisy	3
Mastitis	1	Septicaemia	9	Cancer	3
Pyæmia	65	Malignant Odema	4	Hydraemia	2
Septicæmia	10	Dropsy	6	Pneumonia	3
Emaciation	2	Osteomyelitis.	1	Septic Pneumonia	2
Abscessed &	1				
Peritonitis					

OTHER FOODSTUFFS VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED AS BEING UNSOUND OR UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

Pears	15 tins	Evaporated Milk	3 tins	Beef Loaf	2 tins
Peaches	15 "	Cheddar Cheese	34 lbs	Steak	2 "
Pineapple	7 "	Corned Beef	1 tin	Apricots	10 "
Luncheon Meat	31 "	Lambs Tongues	2 tins	Mandarines	1 tin

ICE-CREAM. All the dealers in the District receive their ice-cream as wrapped bricks or in covered cartons from large manufacturers - there are no manufacturers in our District.

- (c) FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938, Section 15 - Bye-Laws.
(d) ADULTERATION, ETC.
(e) CHEMICAL, BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.
(f) NUTRITION.
(g) SHELL-FISH.
(h) WATER-CRESS.

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SECTION F.
PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases among the civilian population during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Disease Hospital.

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1954.

					Scarlet Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.
Grand Total: M. F.					M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
30	15	15	Totals:		3 2	7 3	8 10
Age	0	to	under	1 year	-	-	1 -
	1	"	"	3 years	-	1 -	1 1
	3	"	"	5 "	-	2 1	3 2
	5	"	"	10 "	-	1 2	2 5
	10	"	"	15 "	-	- -	- 2
	15	"	"	25 "	-	1 -	- -
	25	"	"	45 "	-	1 -	1 -
	45	"	"	65 "	-	- -	- -
	65 & over.				-	-	- -

The 30 notifications of infectious disease received during 1954 can be compared with those of previous years from the following table:-

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Erysipelas.	Infective Hepatitis.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Food Poisoning.	Meningococcal Meningitis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Para-Typhoid Fevers.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Total Cases.
	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.	I.	J.	K.	L.	M.	
1954.	-	2	10	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
1953.	-	-	15	3	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
1952.	-	-	16	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	52
1951.	-	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	10
1950.	-	16	161	5	-	20	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	205
1949.	-	4	8	6	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	23
1948.	-	4	78	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105
1947.	-	4	84	6	1	1	1	-	-	1	14	1	-	113
1946.	1	2	30	12	-	5	-	-	-	2	-	1	9	62
1945.	-	28	78	40	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	153
1944.	1	28	14	49	-	51	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	147
1943.	1	9	71	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
1942.	-	34	7	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	98
1941.	2	23	259	126	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	413
1940.	-	71	34	17	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	125
1939.	2	5	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	31
1938.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4
1937.	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	15
1936.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2

* Measles and Whooping Cough were only notifiable from October 1939.

o Infective Hepatitis became notifiable in 1943.

The first Diphtheria Immunisations were completed in 1941.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES.

New Cases and Mortality.

	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1950.</u>
Pulmonary	1	1	-	4	11
Non-Pulmonary	-	1	2	1	5

The case notified in 1954 was a girl of 4 years as Pulmonary.

MORTALITY.

There were two Pulmonary Tuberculosis deaths during 1954, a male aged 49 years and a female aged 41 years.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1. Cases at commencement 1954.	9	9	4	10	13	19
2. Notified first in 1954.	-	1	-	-	-	1
3. Restored to Register.	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by: Transfers	2	1	-	-	2	1
Death Returns						
5. Cases Removed from Register.	3	1	-	-	3	1
6. Remaining at end of 1954.	8	10	4	10	12	20

Cases remaining on Register at end of year.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total</u>	
		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Femal</u>
1954.	32	8	10	4	10	12	20
1953.	32	9	9	4	10	13	19
1952.	38	10	13	6	9	16	22
1951.	47	14	19	6	8	20	27
1950.	47	13	20	7	7	20	27

